

PEACE NEWS

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U.S. ENDS FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Burning of books goes on

By HUGH BROCK

BY seizing and burning printed material critical of government policy, the USA is moving nearer to totalitarianism.

That it is now US policy to prevent citizens reading material criticising the US Government was confirmed this month in a letter from the solicitor of the US Post Department in Washington.

The letter, replying to an enquiry from the American Friends Service Committee's Peace Education Secretary, Russell Johnson, about the non-delivery of 500 copies of the Movement for Colonial Freedom's pamphlet "Guatemala", said:

"Examination of the said pamphlet discloses it to consist of an article attacking the United States with respect to the recent change of government in Guatemala, stating that there was no Communist threat there, and that what took place was solely to benefit 'American big business.' It is noted that this pamphlet was issued by the Movement for Colonial Freedom, London, England, whose aim is stated to be 'to unite all those working for the political and human rights of colonial people and against imperialism.'

"After the shipment of the pamphlet in question was received in this country, it was turned over to the Post Office by the Custom Service as political propaganda material, and the postmaster was subsequently instructed to treat it as non-mailable in accordance with the Attorney General's opinion. The pamphlet is clearly political propaganda, as defined by the Foreign Agents Registration Act, and this office cannot authorise delivery of the shipment in question."

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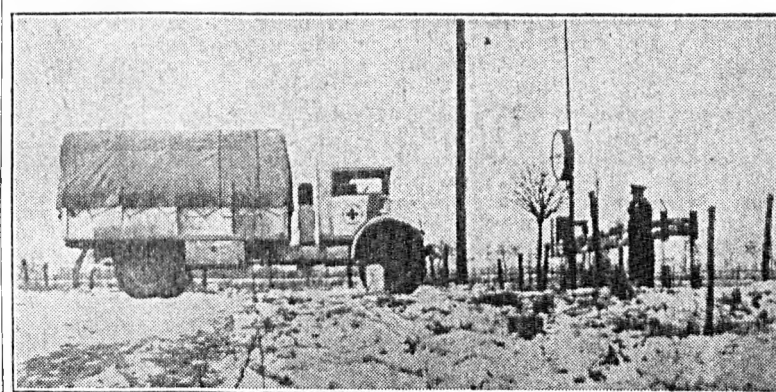
IT CAN BE DONE

American relief, food, medicine, and cattle fodder to the value of over two million dollars has now been distributed to Hungarian victims of the recent Danube floods.

This International Red Cross lorry load of medicines assembled in Switzerland and Germany covered 18,000 miles, many of them over roads treacherous with ice and snow.

No difficulties were met at frontier barriers. Grateful to the Americans for their goodwill gesture, villagers flocked to meet consignments and to shake the drivers by the hand.

Top picture shows a Swiss driver, Austrian frontier guard and Russian soldier.



BEVAN: "If we had the courage to be pacifists"

By MARGARET TIMS

"IT would be a very good thing if we had the courage to be pacifists: there is a great deal to be said for that attitude." So said Mr. Aneurin Bevan, speaking with Dr. Soper at a "Talk with Russia Now" meeting organised by Tribune at the Central Hall, Westminster, last week.

But, went on Mr. Bevan, we had to fight against people becoming cynical neutralists; spiritual poverty was the worst danger in Britain today. If we really wanted to make the Government act we could do so; no government could stand against the force of public opinion if it wished to make itself felt. The two great political parties were united on the issue of German rearmament, but they represented only a fraction of the population.

"The people of Great Britain must stop this passive attitude to events which if allowed to continue will overrun them. No father or mother is entitled to be passive and inactive in this situation."

He said the Prime Minister had admitted that a meeting between the heads of states had been frustrated by the refusal of the United States to co-operate. But we had got to negotiate; with the advent of nuclear weapons no other alternative was left to us. According to Sir Winston we were now stronger than we would be in three years' time—"So what are we waiting for?" asked Mr. Bevan. "If we want to talk out of strength, we have got the strength. The Russians want to talk to us out of their weakness, and we refuse to talk to them out of our strength."

Dr. Donald Soper followed with an appeal for people everywhere, "from furthest West to furthest East," to break out of the paralysis of conditioning by violence and return to common humanity.

"Sir Winston Churchill is a prisoner in the system just as we are," he said, and that was why any talks were better than none; we must get back the personal element in diplomacy.

It was wicked rubbish, he said, to label Russia always as evil and a menace; no one country was ever wholly to blame. Concessions had been made, and retracted, on both sides; we all stood under the same condemnation. "Unless we can find a spiritual or

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USE THE POWER OF BROTHERHOOD —NOT THE H-BOMB

Is Britain justified in preparing to use the H-bomb? An increasing number of people inside and outside Parliament are answering this question with a firm "No." Others are wavering in their adherence to the policy of "peace through strength."

Here are some of the opinions expressed in the Commons debate on Defence last week.

MR. GEORGE PARGITER: I feel that I have gone pretty far down the slippery slopes to hell in the acquiescence which I have given up to now in the manufacture of weapons, and of the atom bomb, and I feel that it has to stop somewhere.

Ought we not also to say that if such a weapon (H-bomb) were used by others that does not justify our using it in return? I should have thought that those who practice or profess Christian principles would have held this as one of the tenets of the Christian faith.

Although we might not expect it from politicians, I think we should have heard something about the hydrogen bomb from the churches, and something from those who, whilst not accepting the Divinity of Christ,

give lip service to His teachings. Even from those who claim Moral Rearmament, who say that it does not matter who is right, but what is right, might we have heard something more than we have heard up to now.

We have a bewildered acceptance by the people, because they have been given no lead.

Not a very small minority

MR. SELWYN LLOYD (Minister of Supply): I concede that those who believe that all defence expenditure is a waste of time will not be very interested, but I believe that they are a very small minority of the House, and, indeed, the country.

MR. EMRYS HUGHES: Not of the country.

END OF A 90-MILE WALK

HAND on the knocker of No. 10 Downing Street, Mary Harrison, 48-year-old housewife, completes her 90-mile walk from Salisbury, Wilts, to protest against the decision to manufacture the H-bomb in Britain.

She handed in this letter to the Prime Minister:

Dear Sir Winston Churchill,
I have walked from Salisbury to London this week as a protest against the Government's decision to manufacture the H-bomb.

I have received many heartfelt expressions of sympathy and goodwill for my mission, and feel I am representing the many who feel, as I do, that Britain should disarm and give a moral lead to the world.

Yours sincerely,

MARY HARRISON.

Hugh Brock, National Chairman of the Peace Pledge Union was also present and handed in another letter of support:

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

One of the members of this organisation has arrived in London today after walking from Salisbury, to protest against the decision of H.M. Government to proceed with the development and manufacture of the H-bomb.

She was met at Kew, and some of us have walked with her into London as a sign of support for her protest.

We wish to record once again our very strongest possible protest at the decision that has been taken. We believe that far from achieving peace, hostility and antagonism arises from the fear engendered by the threat

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MR. ANEURIN BEVAN: Here is a report of an interview with General Gruenther:

"A retired and very responsible officer, Brigadier-General Thomas Phillips recalls a conversation he had in October with General Gruenther, Supreme Commander in Europe. He reports in a sober way General Gruenther's rather devastating assurance that the Western Powers had already 'passed the point of no return' in the use of conventional weapons. 'He has no choice' he told me, 'except to use atomic weapons whether the enemy does so or not'."

Do the people know?

This is very serious... The Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces, has said that whether or not the enemy uses the weapon we shall use it at once. So we are immediately to use the weapon whose use will result in our extinction. Does the Prime Minister think that the people of this country understand that? Does he think that if they understood it he would be in office for a week?

We have either to agree with our enemy or commit suicide. That is what we have come to. The world has already reached the point where either international difficulties are negotiated upon, or else mankind gives up. Negotiate... Why not find out if we can? That is the situation in which mankind is. It does not require an expert to understand it. We do not require scientists to tell us. We do not need to employ expensive soldiers to advise us. They are out of date, they are outmoded; they are no longer of value. We are spending millions and millions of pounds on this foolishness.

Let the Prime Minister do deeds to match his great words; not attempt to delude the country by the majesty of his language, but inspire it by the dedication of his behaviour.

Logical pacifists

MR. TOM DRIBERG: The only two groups of people who are completely logical on this issue are, on the one hand, the absolute pacifists, and on the other hand, what I may call the hydrogen whole-hoggers.

We all understand and respect the position of my hon. Friends who are pacifists. I myself do not feel able to share it, but certainly they have the advantage of being completely logical in their opposition to this new and most deadly of weapons.

On the other hand, the hydrogen whole-hoggers, are perhaps not quite so completely logical. I think... Mr. Shinwell summed up their position yesterday when he said that, in

certain circumstances, we would retaliate with everything we had got. Did he—or do they—really mean everything? Do they mean gas? Do they mean bacteriological warfare?

It seems to me that people who advocate the use of nuclear weapons generally, and the hydrogen bomb in particular, cannot very well say of gas and bacteriological warfare and other methods which we have always hitherto considered atrocious and barbarous, "Oh no. We would never dream of using those; they are much too horrible"—because all the accounts given to us of the results of radioactivity show that no gas, no bacteriological warfare, no disease could be worse, could be more utterly horrific...

For God's sake stop

This may be the last occasion on which we in this House will have the opportunity of saying it—alas, we shall not have the opportunity of saying it directly, but some of us will say it indirectly by abstaining from voting on the official Opposition Amendment—"For God's sake stop and think a little longer, before developing this terrible weapon."

Chronic fear has been the motive of strategy and policy in Russia and America alike over the last few years. Chronic fear can become acute at any moment. Fear tends to make people nervy, jumpy, trigger-happy. Worse than trigger-happy is hydrogen-happy, and if there is one thing which is precisely as bad as having a hydrogen-happy enemy it is having a hydrogen-happy ally.

Suicide club

MR. VICTOR YATES: We are supposed to be the best club in the world, but it seems to me that we are entering upon a new phase, because its only contribution is to suicidal mania...

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VINOBA BHAVE

Leader of the Indian Land Gift Movement, writes in
PEACE NEWS
next week.

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WILFRED WELLOCK REPORTS BACK ON LIFE IN THE U.S.A.

Peace News Reporter

"WHEREVER I went I met fear—fear not of Russian Communism, but fear of Communism within America—fear of the future, fear of the mounting demands for weekly payments which the average American family finds difficult to meet. This fear is based on the American Way of Life."

In these words Wilfred Wellock summed up the impressions he had received on his recent visit to the USA to a gathering of Peace News friends and supporters at the Friends International Centre last week.

"And because of this way of life, I would say that America is not morally and spiritually fitted for world leadership," he continued. "We in Britain should have been able to take it over, but we are ourselves going along the same road."

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The "other America" did exist. There was a nucleus of spiritual thinking within the colleges. But it was being made dumb by McCarthyism, and by the quiet slaughter of mind and soul in America.

American industry was becoming more and more an automaton, he explained. To sap up the pools of unemployment which each new automatic technique created, and to sap up also the pools of uninvested capital—since automatic industry meant high profits—more and more gadgets had to be invented, produced, advertised, and finally sold.

The average American family in the middle income group—i.e., earning from 70-100 dollars a week (from £18-£23), must possess a cooking stove, a washer, a dryer, a refrigerator, a "deep freeze," a radio, television, central heating, and at least one car. All these things had to be paid for "on time," and "once you get 'on time' you never get off."

★

"To meet the rising weekly payments on time-saving gadgets the American insists on overtime," he continued. "He then acquires an evening job; then his wife takes a job; this in turn means a second car, still more commitments, more expensively canned food. Such is the vicious circle."

American indebtedness on goods was at present \$30,000 m. dollars; on housing mortgages \$75,000 m.; a total indebtedness of \$105,000 m. Was it any wonder that America did not dare end hire purchase? She was boxed in this economy, she dare not face a slump.

President Eisenhower had promised that by 1946 there should be an increase in the standard of living in every home in America. There was only one way in which he could meet this promise: he must appropriate to America the bulk of the world's raw materials, and capture the world's main markets.

But we had already reached a stage when world trade was decreasing. Those nations which had recently acquired political freedom, sought to maintain this freedom by a well-balanced agro-industrial economy based on self-sufficiency. And as self-sufficiency increased, so world trade would dwindle. Faced with competition from America, Germany and Japan Britain would be in a bad way.

This was the crisis in the social order which had to be faced today, Wilfred Wellock explained. For when this position became clear Communism would get its chance. It would doubtless be content to await the clash.

"Only by a reconstitution of the whole social order, only by a reconstitution of our way of life and of our sense of values, can the world's unbalanced economy be solved; only so can we solve the problem of peace and war," he concluded.

College assemblies hear of African struggle

TOM WARDLE of Peace News staff, completed a week's speaking tour in Kansas, U.S., under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee, on February 21. He addressed college assemblies and public meetings in Lindsborg, McPherson, Salina, Arkansas City, and Pratt, on "The Struggle in South Africa". The Pratt County UNESCO organisation made his appearance the occasion of their annual community-wide function.

A high point of Tom Wardle's visit was the College Peace Conference held at Friends University, Wichita. He addressed the conference on "Prospects for Non-Violence in a Violent World". Harold Chance, Friends Peace Service, Philadelphia, also shared in the leadership of this conference.

The conference is an annual event sponsored by the student organisations in Friends University, Wichita (Quaker); Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas (General Conference Mennonites); and McPherson College, McPherson, Kansas (Church of the Brethren). Some hundred students and other interested adults from the city and colleges from neighbouring towns participated.

American audiences were friendly and very appreciative of Tom Wardle's straightforward presentation of the South African situation. They were brought to a new realisation of the struggle for Christian values on the entire continent of Africa.

Political objector was sincere, but Tribunal rejected appeal

BY OLWEN BATTERSBY

"I AM not being called up to fight in ten or twenty years time for a Socialist world. I am being called up here and now, in 1955, by Her Majesty's Government, to fight in circumstances which I cannot at the moment conceive, in order that Britain may play a specific role in world society. It is to that I am objecting."

This statement was made by Ronald Keating, aged 18, to the Appellate Tribunal for conscientious objectors in London last week. Mr. Keating is a member of the National Committee of the Labour League of Youth and had just completed his year of Chairman of that committee.

He was not—as he had already explained to the Fulham Tribunal which had refused him exemption—a pacifist (Peace News Dec. 10).

"I believe that it is impossible to end war without first ending the inequalities of the capitalist system," he explained. "I believe that so long as we have a society based on the profit motive, where some people have power of life and death over those with no capital, you will get a situation where some people will want more than they are getting, and will fight for their rights. It is a natural human instinct."

The real trial

As one listened to these words one realised that what was being considered was not in this case the sincerity of the applicant. This was patent. It had been acknowledged at the earlier Tribunal when Judge Hargreaves, in summing up, had stated, "We see no reason to doubt the sincerity of the views he holds..." It was reaffirmed by three witnesses at the present Tribunal.

What was on trial was the meaning and interpretation of British law. Would a youth of 18 years be imprisoned in this country for refusing to take part in mass slaughter for a cause in which he did not believe.

Briefly Denis Hayes, supporting solicitor, outlined the history of the case. Mr. Keating was one of three generations of Socialists; he was employed as a clerk at Transport House; he had been Chairman of the Labour League of Youth.

His objection to military service was now "less partial" than it had been at the time of his local tribunal, Denis Hayes explained. In 1953 Ronald Keating had attended a conference for conscientious objectors called by the Society of Friends, and had been greatly influenced by the views of John Hoyland, a well-known Quaker and theologian. His thoughts had been slow in maturing, but he now felt that war on an international scale could seldom be justified.

Nevertheless he had certain mental reservations, not uncommon among Socialists. He felt that if there should be great oppression of the workers by the "boss class," then it would be morally right to take up arms in support of the workers. He had certain reservations, also, in regard to the Colonial struggle.

If Russia invaded...

Asked by the Chairman what would be his attitude if Russia invaded this country, Mr. Keating replied: "I feel, Sir, that the question shows a complete lack of understanding of the world problem. So long as Russia sees facing her from the West colossal armaments, air bases, SEATO and NATO; so long as she hears of Colonial wars, and of support for Chiang Kai-shek and Bao Dai, so long will there be the danger of a head-on collision between the two sides."

Asked further whether in the event of a Labour Government coming to power, any war arising out of this situation would then be justified, he replied, "No, Sir." It was possible, he agreed, that a Labour Government might support a capitalist war. "Indeed, in the past it had been so," he concluded.

His appeal to be registered as a conscientious objector was dismissed.

IT IS MURDER IN MY EYES—Scots CO

Although Robert Dick, 19 year old conscientious objector described war as "wholesale murder," the Scottish Local Tribunal, sitting at Glasgow on February 9 did not grant him military exemption.

Said Dick, "If a soldier of one nation kills a soldier of another nation, it is murder in my eyes."

Witness for Dick was Guy Aldred, Editor of the Socialist paper, "The Word," who told the Tribunal that he had known Dick for four years. Dick's father had been a CO during the last war and had been imprisoned.

Guy Aldred had discussed the question of opposition to war with the applicant, and thought that although his objection was rather crudely phrased, it was nevertheless a sincere and honest one.

HOW COs FARE IN OTHER COUNTRIES

THE story of how an Israeli War Resisters' International member went on a hunger strike, and showed active protest against militarisation in any form, is told in the Spring issue of the War Resister.

Amnon Zichrony, 18-year-old son of a Zionist pioneer, was held by his prosecutors to be "motivated by conscience," a man "of unusually high intelligence."

Such men exist all over the world: some are facing Tribunals and Committees, where the right to possess a conscience is acknowledged, though discouraged: others are not so fortunate and become "lawbreakers" at the first sign of personal freedom.

In France, the "Committee for the Legal Recognition of Conscientious Objection" organised a campaign which resulted in the vote, by the National Assembly, of an amnesty to Conscientious Objectors which was rejected later by the Council of the Republic, and, at a second reading, by the Assembly itself. Signing the War Resisters' International declaration, therefore, means to the French not only prison, but exclusion from public office, often the ruin of health, and possibly exile.

From Italy comes a similar story—there is no legal recognition of conscientious objection, and to engage in war resistance is not only difficult but dangerous.

From Mexico comes the news that although WRI activities have had to be suspended because the people understand the word pacifism to mean some political organisation, efforts have been directed toward finding a more thorough solution of the problem of violence and injustice.

Wise words, which will be endorsed by most pacifists are those of Jorge Rio de la Loza, of Mexico: "A pacifist should impose on himself a great social task at least equivalent in difficulty to the one he refuses."

Grace Beaton (General Secretary) in her report of the recent three years work of the WRI, points out, however, that it is not always possible for a pacifist to refuse military service and live to take any task upon himself. Without trial or imprisonment, some objectors face death, with escape the only alternative.

*Is. from Housmans Bookshop, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

A "KEEPING-ON" TASK

ONCE heard it argued that if the British Army quit India vast hordes of Indians would head for Britain and cut all our throats. Lucknow and the Black Hole of Calcutta loomed large in the history books read by older generations.



A long hard campaign got the British Army out of India. It was a struggle against ignorance, intolerance and vested interests. But, as in the campaign against slavery, victory came to those who put their trust in the brotherhood of man.

Now we have a bigger struggle before us. To liquidate (in a pacifist way) the British Army, and to get the US forces out of Britain.

Atomic weapon plants must be closed; the call-up brought to an end; the War Office shut up; Naval dockyards dismantled.

The tentacles of militarism and its ally, fear, have a tremendous hold on the country.

But Willberforce faced the same situation with the slave trade; that too had a grip on the whole of British life.

Talk "British disarmament" whenever you can. Capture the imagination of young people with the vision of a Britain that has given a lead to the world by scrapping all her armed forces.

Then the day will come nearer when a "blanket" Bill is introduced into Parliament abolishing all the nation's military establishments, what ever other countries may do.

It's a "keeping on" job. But it is top priority for all of us.

HUGH BROCK.

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Please make cheques, etc., payable to Peace News Ltd., and address them to Lady Clare Annesley, Joint Treasurer, Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

BRIEFLY...

New Presidents. Of the International Red Cross: Professor Leopold Boissier (for 20 years Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union) succeeds Dr. Paul Ruegger. Of the International Court of Justice: Mr. Green H. Hackworth (formerly legal adviser to the US State Department) succeeds Sir Arnold McNair, Great Britain, who had not sought re-election to the Court.

Asked in the Commons on March 3 how many councils have withdrawn support for Civil Defence on the ground that it offered no protection from nuclear warfare, Major Lloyd-George replied that three had done so: one county borough, one non-county borough and one urban district.

If rearmament is forced upon the Germans, a draft law which will be introduced by the government will give West Germans the right to object to military service for the first time in history. As a result of this, Hans Koepfer, Chairman of the Conscientious Objectors' Association, estimates that about 100,000 of the 350,000 involved in the call-up will object.

"Negro History Week" was observed in the USA February 14-19. The annual observance is designed to stimulate interest in the history of the Negro race in the USA. Educational material is provided to schools and libraries by the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, the sponsors of the observance.

The Japanese Association of Mining Engineers have stated that they will not co-operate with any government project for the mining of uranium unless it could be guaranteed that the uranium obtained would be used solely for peaceful purposes.

Returning from his 74-day visit to India and Burma, President Tito, of Yugoslavia, in a speech to those who welcomed him outside Belgrade station, said: "It is wrong—but it is the rule in the foreign policy of many countries today—to regard peaceful moves by a country as an indication of weakness, and then, as a consequence to strain relations still more."

PEOPLE AND PLACES

East-West link

THE East Ham Peace Movement—a British Peace Committee group, which is also associated with the local branch of the United Nations Association—has taken a step which might very well be considered by pacifist groups. It has "adopted" the Cottbus Peace Committee in East Germany, or rather there is a mutual adoption arrangement.

The two groups correspond with each other, send each other propaganda publications, and are proposing for the coming summer to arrange a holiday exchange scheme so that Cottbus folk may stay in the homes of East Ham folk and vice versa.

"The remnant"

THE maintenance of contacts with young people in East Germany against militarism going on there as in the West. Both Governments are doing their best to suppress pacifism.

While the war-resistance movement has had its organisation made illegal in E. Germany its spirit is still alive, as this statement by Deputy Premier Ulbricht, in an interview with "Junge Welt" (Jan. 5, 1955) shows:

"There are young people... who are indifferent to the need to defend the homeland, and the achievements of the workers' and peasants' state. He who wishes to maintain peace and secure the great achievements of our people's regime must co-operate in strengthening the defensive forces of the Republic. Therefore all pacifist views which

weaken the defensive preparedness of our Republic must be opposed."

Key personnel in the Society for Sport and Technology ("Gesellschaft für Sport und Technik") were urged by a meeting of the Central Executive at Schwerin (Mecklenburg) on Aug. 6, 1954 to "increase preparedness for defence and overcome the pacifist remnants within the organisation" by "improvement of training in sport and technology and of ideological education."

"The harmful nature of pacifism" was to be emphasised in "political study groups and week-end courses."

The Chairman of the Free German Youth (FDJ), Erich Honecker declared in "Junge Welt" Dec. 15, 1954 that "Members of the FDJ must consider it an honour and a duty to explain to all young people the importance of the armed defence of our German Democratic Republic."

To their lasting honour there is a large "remnant" in both East and West Germany who will neither put on uniform nor pick up a rifle. They are the front-line fighters in today's struggle for a warless world. They know that a homeland cannot be defended by weapons, nor the hand of friendship be extended when a gun has been put into it.

Salisbury to Whitehall

THE poster paraders who met Mary Harrison last Saturday had a tough time keeping their poster poles upright in the strong north-east wind which blew all day. The muscular strain is severe compared

By Hugh Brock

with parading on a calm day. Stuart Morris and Hilda Klenze carried poles the full eight miles from Kew.

Mary Harrison and her husband were moved to find so many had turned out to support them.

Waiting to meet them at Kew Bridge was Mrs. Ineson of the National Executive of the Methodist Peace Fellowship with this letter of welcome:

"The members of the Executive of the MPF meeting on Wednesday of this week while your pilgrimage is in progress wish to send you their warmest greetings and assure you of their prayers in the cause you have at heart."

"Your courageous action gives strength to others and confirms us in our own purpose to work continually for the abolition of all wars as contrary to the spirit and teaching of Christ."

"Like the army!"

THE poster parade led by Stuart Morris, which marched with Mary Harrison from Kew-up Whitehall, and the poster parade led by Sybil Morrison which marched from Trafalgar Square down Whitehall, met, as planned, at Downing Street—at 3.30 p.m.

The police were apparently impressed with the clock-like precision. "Just like the Army" was one comment. "The PPU ought to organise the next Coronation" was another.

Sense—and nonsense from the Commons

Hesitation

IF full details were given to this country regarding the effects of the use of the hydrogen bomb and other nuclear weapons, would there be hesitation in the manufacture of these weapons?

This was the gist of an unanswered question put to the Prime Minister in the Commons on February 24. Previously, Mr. Anthony Greenwood had asked if the Prime Minister would arrange for the publication of a White Paper on the effect of nuclear warfare.

"Paradise Lost"

SPEAKING in the debate in the Commons on February 25 on the use of atomic energy for peace purposes, Evelyn Birch said, "When thinking of the atomic bomb, I always think of PARADISE LOST. I am sure that . . . (Mr. Chuter Ede) . . . will remember that in PARADISE LOST, when the devil was expelled from Heaven and was plotting revenge himself on God, he said, 'And out of good still to find means of evil'. Our object must be out of evil still to find means of good."

Replying, Mr. Chuter Ede referred to atomic energy as Pandora's Box, and went on, "What this debate—and all debates on this subject—has proved is that science must be made the servant of our moral feelings. The tremendous powers with which we are now endowed call for the making of right choices in a way that has never been more important in the history of the world. Unless this generation trains people, not merely as scientists, but as believers in the great, moral human principles that have governed us in the past, what should be a blessing will certainly be a curse."

Ignorance is bliss

UNSATISFACTORY replies were given by the Rt. Hon. Harold MacMillan, Defence Minister, in the Commons on February 23, when he was asked by Eric Fletcher, MP what experiments he intends to carry out with the use of hydrogen bombs, and where these experiments will take place.

Mr. MacMillan said that there was no information that he could give.

He was then asked if assurance could be given that these experiments would only be made with the express approval of Parliament, and was again answered non-committally.

Emrys Hughes asked the estimated cost of manufacturing the H-bomb, and was told, "I am afraid that I am not capable of making that reply."

Right hand—left hand

BRITAIN will negotiate for general disarmament at the same time as she takes part in the rearming of Germany.

This was disclosed in a written answer of February 15, by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to a question by Mr. Soensen, Chairman of the National Peace Council, asking whether consideration would be given to the suspension of the ratification of the Paris Agreements, providing there is evidence of a genuine effort to secure a measure of multilateral disarmament.

Mr. Turtton replied, "... There is no inconsistency between these two aims: nor indeed need the one wait upon the other."

Price of a conscience

JAMES HUDSON, MP Ealing North, at the second reading of the Army Bill on January 25, told the Commons how a youth in the Navy, having become a conscientious objector, had had to resort to purchasing his freedom at the price of £50.

"I want to see defended the right of a young man to say, as he must say—it has to be done by law before a tribunal—what are his views, his rights, and his duty in a matter of this sort," said Hudson.

Paying for a release was not the sort of freedom he wanted. "If a man has a conscientious conviction let it stand as a conviction and be decided as such. Do not let it stand according to the power of his purse to buy him out," he said.

Military Administration for COs?

Because the Select Committee could not recommend the machinery whereby a boy entrant to the Forces on becoming a conscientious objector could apply for discharge, the clause which they previously had prepared for the Army Bill was rejected.

Commenting on this fact, James Hudson, MP, said in the Commons on January 25, "... as a result of the timidity of the Committee which has been dealing with this matter . . . when the question of conscience arises in the case of a boy who joined the Army during his boyhood, and who has reached the age of 18, it should be left not to a tribunal but to be settled administratively by the War Office, or the commanding officer, or whosoever it may be."

Broken pledge

A PLEDGE, given by the government in 1950, that the increase to two years in the period of National Service was purely a temporary measure, was referred to in the Commons on February 15 by Stephen Swingle, MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme.

The Secretary of State for War denied Mr. Swingle's allegations that the Government had failed to get sufficient regular recruits and therefore drew upon National Servicemen, and said, "The reasons for the present period of National Service are the general situation overseas, our commitments in Europe and our desire to balance the army's general structure by creating a strategic reserve."

FRANK HANCOCK looks back at the British Zone Review, published in Germany—

BEFORE THE TURNABOUT

WHEN the Allies occupied Germany in 1945 the British Occupation Authority published monthly a well-got-up paper, "The British Zone Review." It was printed in German and English, and was designed to discover Germany, and her history, and ways, to the British soldiers and Administrative Staff, and to "educate" the Germans in ways of democracy and peace. It makes sad re-reading today.

Long prominent articles in three issues were headed "The Anti-Militarist Movement in Germany." To make easy for the German people the acceptance of the enforced disarmament of their country, the German pacifists of 1919 to 1939 were held up as honoured examples, which the Germans should proudly follow.

"Gallant anti-militarist"

In its issue of November, 1947, we read that in 1920 the "German Peace Society" numbered 10,000 members, and that:

"There are numbers of Germans today who remember perfectly well the work and aims of these gallant anti-militarist front-line fighters. They are still to be found in all ranks of German society, an indication that it is difficult to exterminate Christian and enlightened ideas."

British conscientious objectors appearing before Tribunals might well quote this testimony to pacifism, which was British official propaganda to Germans seven years ago.

The article proceeds:

"The greatest act of courage and service to humanity rendered by the pacifists and anti-militarists was their determined fight against the illegal rearmament of Germany (1923)."

Under "Stresemann, dozens of pacifist rallies were forbidden, and the periodicals of three of the most objective and energetic fighters for peace were forbidden to appear—pacifists were prosecuted and not a few of them suffered terms of imprisonment."

Dr. Barkeley, author of "Die Deutsche Friedensbewegung 1870-1933" is specially praised, and quoted:

"The pacifists did not give in, and throughout Germany continued to warn their countrymen through leaflets and pamphlets of the illegal rearmament. If only their warnings had had more success the

German people and the world would have been spared the consequent disaster. German democracy forged their own destruction." The December, 1947, British Zone Review said:

"There was another weekly 'Das Andere Deutschland' ('The Other Germany') which in the early 20's rose to a circulation of 15,000, and at the time of its suppression in 1933, to 34,000. Perusal of its pages reveals militant pacifism at its best. None too soon in July of this year (1947) it appears again for the first time since 1933."

It goes on to praise the late Baron von Schoenaich, then Chairman of the German Peace Movement:

"This leader of German pacifism was a man of feeling, common sense and courage of the highest order."

The Review reports that "The Catholic Peace Union proposed an international front of Catholics against the carrying out of military service, but unfortunately (my italics) this party, the Centre, passed under its Right-wing leader, Dr. Kaas."

"Folly of militarism"

The articles conclude:

"It is to be sincerely hoped that from now onwards, the German political parties will not again succumb to the folly of militarism."

Somebody has been humbugged. Was it the men of 1947 who read this in an official British Army magazine, or is it the German people today, by the Allied-supported Dr. Adenauer? I think it was the 1947 readers, for "Pacifism" was never for British consumption, but "for export only" to a defeated and still feared Germany.

"Das Andere Deutschland" has since been threatened with suppression.

FIGHTING TB IN INDIA

This little Indian child, stepping briskly from a mobile clinic, has just had her chest fluoroscoped in an anti-TB drive in the Behar state of India.

This roving medical service is provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) which, together with the World Health Organisation, has helped the Indian Government to set up tuberculosis control demonstration and training centres in India.

About £6,377,000, contributed by almost 60 countries, was allocated by UNICEF for assistance projects last year.

Cost of a series of atom bomb tests such as are now proceeding in Nevada (US) is over £10m.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Co-existence with Portugal

THE war merchants are always suggesting in their propaganda that peaceful co-existence with Russia is practically a moral impossibility; but they never suggest that we should be equally outraged by the co-existence of contemporary Portugal. Yet, as I try to show in my new book PORTUGUESE PANORAMA (Burke, 18s.), the "benevolent dictatorship" is a regime as repressive as Hitler's.

So many, alas, have chosen to forget that the Portuguese political police were personally organised by Himmler and that Dr. Salazar was outspokenly pro-Hitler.

OSWELL BLAKESTON.

49 Fellows Rd.,

London, N.W.3.

Quakers and peace

THE STORY OF QUAKERISM from which Norman Leveritt quoted last week is a very useful book. I am familiar with it.

It is true that the Friends issued excellent Peace Testimonies during the 1914-18 war. It should be noted that such things are agreed by the sense of the meeting. The history of the society being what it is, it is obviously difficult for those who in their minds did not agree to protest effectively.

I was in touch with many Friends at that time; my work for the FoR and NCF took me to many places in the South attending tribunals, police courts, barracks and courts martial.

A large proportion of Friends would take newspapers such as the then Daily News which were under Quaker control, and the con-

sequence was inevitable.

At a police court in an ancient town I heard an old Quaker magistrate say to a CO: "You have made your protest; Now join up and do your duty." This old Friend was a retired headmaster of a large Quaker school, and one can imagine what his influence on his scholars would be.

I do not write this with animosity, but it seems to me that one's regard for truth should not allow one to disregard truth.

Bleaden, Weston-super-Mare. B. J. OVER.

Minority opinion

TOM WARDLE ("Give Minorities a Fair Deal," January 28) has exposed an important aspect of the managerial revolution—the freeing out of all minority opinion.

The BBC now feels less secure in its monopoly. Commercial television begins a process that could easily wipe out the BBC. The mass of viewers will almost certainly flock to the "straight entertainment" of commercial TV. Then the agitation for commercial radio will start. The BBC must then look to a minority of people for its support, among whom those holding minority viewpoints will be numerous.

This is beginning to be realised at Broadcasting House—hence the New Look, which has produced such screams of rage from the orthodoxes. The most revealing example is the protest by the Tory and Labour parties at the granting of two broadcasts a year on the Welsh Home Service to Plaid Cymru (Welsh Nationalists) and the Liberals.

The BBC then needs minorities. The minori-

Talking of books . . .

The war in Indo-China

By Robert Greacen

OPERATION WASTE by Philippe de Pirey (Arco Publications, 15s.) is the story of a young French parachutist's experiences in the recent War in Indo-China, a conflict which for several years contributed much towards the progressive weakening of France, both physically and morally. Nineteen years old Philippe de Pirey arrived in Indo-China in 1950 in time to fight in the Thai jungles and take part in hunting down the Viet Minh forces in Annam.

OPERATION WASTE gives the impression of being first-hand, for it has none of the finesse that would suggest the hand of a professional writer. It deals with a merciless struggle fought by the French without hope or conviction. Philippe de Pirey's book shows pretty convincingly that, despite General de Gaulle, the day of *la gloire* is long past. Not least important is the author's description of the moral degradation caused by this War. He gives some details of the prostitution, homosexuality and brutality of every kind in which the troops engaged.

★

I have been interested in the recent appearance of an unusual publication, The London Broadsheet, really a literary magazine published in newspaper format at 3d. a time. This paper has an attitude of refreshing irreverence towards conventional opinions; and unlike so many literary magazines, there is an air of zest and gaiety about it. There have been two issues so far and in his first one the editor boldly stated his aim:

We wish to reintroduce a healthy anger at bad art and bad government. Poetry is retreating to provincial universities, criticism has grown mealy-mouthed, honest bawdy is censored, and every real political opposition is watched by the police. We solicit serious comment on any of the above tendencies.

I am glad also to notice in THE LONDON BROADSHEET a strong anti-war feeling. Some of the contributors are pacifists: James Kirkup and Oswald Blakeston, for example. Speaking of German Rearmament George Thomas writes:

I have not hitherto been a pacifist, but I am coming to the belief that the only hope for us in the monstrous situation is for some community to trumpet the cause of disarmament and disarm itself regardless of whether others pledge themselves (to begin with) to follow suit. An act of faith of this sort has never been more necessary than now.

I shall look forward with considerable enthusiasm to the future of this spirited and sensible little paper. For the benefit of would-be readers I might add that the annual subscription is 5s. and single copies cost 3d. (plus postage) from 238 Fulham Road, London, S.W.3.

UN Essay Competition

REVIEW and evaluate what Non-Governmental Organisations (i.e. voluntary associations) have done in your country or area to improve public understanding of the United Nations during the past ten years," is the subject of the year's essay competition held by UN.

Seven first prizes, representing a four-week stay at United Nations Headquarters, New York, will be awarded by an international jury. Second prizewinners will be offered a two-week stay in a regional centre of UN activity, such as Geneva or Bangkok.

Competitors must be bona fide members of a national organisation which actively co-operates with the UNA or UN.

Manuscripts, not exceeding 2,500 words, should be sent to the United Nations Association, 25 Charles St., London, W.1.

ties can gradually get a semblance of "fair shares on the air" if they kick hard enough.

E. A. HARTLEY.

Common Wealth,

12 High St.,

London, N.W.3.

For Italian neutrality

I HAVE read your paper with great interest. I wish to inform you that on behalf of some Italian newspapers I have proposed a project of law for obtaining an international status of permanent neutrality for Italy, similar to that obtained by Switzerland during 1815. The aim of the proposal is to assure permanent peace for Italy.

This project of law should be approved by the Italian Parliament according to the 11th and 71st articles of the Italian Constitution.

I would be grateful for the help of pacifist organisations in drawing up this draft.

OSVALDO LASAGNA.

7 Via Catella Fusco,

Castellammare di Stabia,

Napoli, Italy.

More letters on next page

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Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh Street, W.C.1

"Major Barbara" in the H-bomb age

WILFRID GRANTHAM'S production and the cast in "Major Barbara" (Light), were excellent.

Here was a subject—religion versus armaments—in which Shaw revelled. We see him in all his tireless verbosity, tossing combatants into the ring and belabouring them mercilessly. His characters are skittles he delights to bowl over with words. Some of the shafts still find the target: "Poverty and crime have stood up to religion for generations" (is it a wonder some are now trying other means?). "These cannons go off by themselves" (they never do; the other side always fires first and we must follow). "You cannot have power for good as well as evil" (is this not our reason for making the H-bomb?). "The more destructive war becomes the more fascinating it is" (A bull's-eye!).

★

Aunt has taken cold. During the inclement weather she remains abed, following the programmes with an ancient pair of ear-phones. Saying "good-night" to her after "Today in Parliament" (Home), she said: "A little while ago they said hanging was a deterrent to murder; now the H-bomb is a deterrent to war. I don't believe one of them has ever done a good day's washing!" We let it go at that.

RADIO by Joseph Fleming

In "The Nun's Priest's Tale" (Home), A first class team, James McKechnie, Betty Hardy, Deryck Guyler, Heron Carvic, and the producer, Stephen (Chaucer) Potter, had a merry time. But why did Nevill Coghill agree—or allow—a cut of nearly fifty lines—the second dream?

★

The talk "Crime Comics and the American Way of Life" (Third), by Irving Sarnoff of Michigan University, sought to relate the findings of Dr. Frederic Wertham in his book "Seduction of the Innocent" to the general conditions of American life. A wise approach. It is not sufficient to condemn the warped, vested interests in this plague upon the young and encourage opinion for its extermination by legislation. There is a reason why the fertile, tender minds are eager to absorb "sixty million copies each month" of appeals "to sadism—sheer beastliness—aggression against women, with nothing left to the imagination."

"Crime Comics are only a phase of a deeper social ill. Children watch the triumph of ruthlessness which guides adults: the atom bomb, person against person... money and personal success the supreme factor."

An ugly picture, certainly, but the diagnosis made, we are confident there are sufficient unselfish souls in that home of the Pilgrim Fathers who will not rest until a remedy is found.

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ESTABLISHED 25 YEARS

As this is a free service, we reserve the right to select notices for publication. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

- Friday, March 11
CARDIFF: 7.30 p.m. Friends Mtg. Ho., 43 Charles St. J. Allen Skinner (Editor, Peace News), "The Third Way," PPU.
LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m.: Conway Hall, Red Lion Sq., Lord Boyd Orr, FR.S., "Ethics in the Atomic Age," Chairman, Lord Horder, South Place Ethical Society.
Saturday, March 12
LANCASTER: 3 p.m.: Friends Mtg. Ho., (adj. Castle St.), Edith Adam, "South East Asia, Problems of Chinese Minorities," Area Qity. PPU.
LIVERPOOL: 7.30 p.m.: Friends Mtg. Ho., Hunter St. Prof. Kathleen Lonsdale, "Science, Politics and Peace," Public Mtg. SoF.
MORLEY, LEEDS: 6.30 p.m.: Adult Sch., Ackroyd St. John Kay, John Lockett, "Any Questions on Peace and War," SoF.
Sunday, March 13
COULSDON: 3 p.m.: 87 Chaldon Way, Frank Dawtry, "The Penal System," Surrey Area. PPU. AGM.
ILKLEY: 2.0 p.m.: Friends Mtg. Ho., Queens Rd. John Kay, "The Hope for Peace Today," Public Mtg. SoF.
LEEDS: 6.30 p.m.: Fellowship Ho., St. Michaels Rd. John Lockett, "Our Witness for Peace Today," Public Mtg. SoF.
ROUNDAHAY, LEEDS: 6.30 p.m.: Friends Mtg. Ho., 136 Street Lane, John Kay "The hope for peace today," Public Mtg. SoF.
Monday, March 14
BURY: 7.30 p.m.: Walmersley Rd. Methodist Sch. Edith Adam, "Formosa," For.
LONDON, S.W.18: 7.30 p.m.: Wandsworth Friends Mtg. Ho., Wandsworth High St. AGM. Battersea and Wandsworth PPU Group.
Wednesday, March 16
BRISTOL: 7 p.m.: Friends Mtg. Ho., Broadweir. AGM preparation. Central PPU Group.
LONDON, W.C.1: 1 p.m.-2 p.m.: Friends International Centre, 32 Tavistock Sq. Mrs. Eirene White, MP. "Some Problems of Africa." Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.
Every week!
SUNDAYS
HYDE PARK: 3 p.m.: Pacifist Youth Action Group. Every Sunday. PYAG.
TUESDAYS
MANCHESTER: 1-2 p.m.: Deansgate Blitz Site. Christian pacifist open-air. Local Methodist ministers and others. MPF.
WEDNESDAYS
NOTTINGHAM: 1.15 p.m.: Open-air mtg. Old Market Sq. Rev. Donald Pipe and others. For. PPU.
THURSDAYS
LONDON, W.C.1: 1.15-1.45 p.m.: Church of St. George the Martyr, Queen St. Weekly lunch-hour Service of Intercession for World Peace. Conducted by clergy and laymen of different denominations.

Youth Conference discusses Co-existence DON'T JUDGE RUSSIA BY BRITISH STANDARDS

By IAN DIXON

Secretary, Pacifist Youth Action Group

"AN intensely interesting and worthwhile week-end" was the verdict of one of the delegates of the National Peace Council's week-end school on February 25-27. Beatrice Webb House, a large pseudo-Elizabethan house in the Surrey countryside was a perfect setting for a youth conference on "Co-existence." Pacifists, Conservatives, Communists, and young people from numerous other political, religious and cultural groups contributed to many stimulating discussions.

The conference opened with a talk by Mr. P. N. Halssar, of India House, on the Indian Government's view on co-existence. In warning against the representation of slogans and superficial impressions as real knowledge he stressed that India's policy was not neutral. The term was only relevant to warfare. It implies indifference and isolationism. India was neither.

The division of the world into the Communist and anti-Communist power blocs was disastrous. In every society the frustration of free expression and development led to a "septic focus" to which Communism centres. Its paramountcy would be a reflection of our own failure.

He rejected the myth of "negotiation from strength." Competitive rearmament led to eternal mutual fear. The concept was historically and scientifically unsound. War was no longer a wilful policy but could occur by accident.

POLITICS

John Garnett, of the United Nations Association, spoke on "Politics Behind the Iron Curtain." During his visit there he was immensely impressed with the urgent sense of unity in the struggle for economic development. The Western concept of freedom seemed by comparison to be academic to the Russians.

The people who experienced Tsarism were enthusiastic but the young were tending to adopt the apathy of orthodoxy. Every aspect of society was permeated by the Communist Party. Unlike some "satellite" countries, the Russian secret police seemed as unnecessary as they were unseen.

Mary Protheroe, a Quaker who visited China in 1954, stressed the enthusiastic spirit of "New China."

The Christian Church had freedom of worship on condition that its leadership and finances were Chinese, as it was previously allied with the Kuomintang and had owned much land. There was little rigid sectarianism. The Church was impressed by Communist economic development and the emphasis on honesty and simplicity. The challenge to Christians was not Communism but the lives of Communists.

Margaret Quass, assistant secretary of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, recorded her impressions of Soviet art. It had to appeal to the people. Standards were lower therefore but performance and appreciation were high. Ample facilities were available for cultural interests in museums, libraries, picture

galleries, and Pioneer Palaces for young people, but the need for technological study was of overriding importance. The facilities offered by religious bodies were unattractive compared to the State's. Opportunities for understanding the West culturally or politically were few. Cultural exchanges would not solve the problem but could create a sense of value for the other country.

EDUCATION

Fred Jarvis, National Union of Students, said that his experiences in the USSR did not offer much hope. The Soviet system was designed to produce good Communists and nothing else. Political propaganda was inserted in school books.

Russian students thought the Daily Worker was representative of the British people who were smarting under American militarism and capitalist exploitation. Trotsky was suppressed from history books.

Mr. Jarvis found an uncritical and naive acceptance of all that the régime said, including the employment of Beria as an American agent. Anti-American propaganda was enjoyed by young people at the Pioneer Palaces. The Consolom or local young Communist Party could bring frightening social and economic pressure to bear on rebels.

More exchanges of individuals as well as groups of students could help to break down this rigid control of thought.

Speaking on trade unionism and social security, Barbara Burwell, of the National League of Young Liberals, said that trade unions were a part of the revolution and therefore part of the consequent régime. Their structure and organisation was similar to the West, but one factory had one Union. Management-worker relationships were good though strikes had occurred. Working conditions were comparable with the West.

"To each according to his work" was the guiding factor in present Soviet industry. Control of training facilities and encouragement of heavy industries limited industrial freedom. The Unions offered many cultural and educational facilities and executed a system of high pensions and social insurance.

Miss Burwell felt that the system of bonuses, piece-work and artificially high incentives would make the weak suffer. Political propaganda should not be allowed to engulf so many facets of life.

EXCHANGES

John Corsellis, Educational Interchange Council, in summing up, asked that Russian institutions be not judged by contemporary British standards but by previous Russian conditions. Much of the "Iron Curtain" was due to fear, inertia and a bureaucratic unwillingness to accept responsibility. Britain was not allowed to build pro-western organisations in Russia to encourage exchanges of people and knowledge. There was little reciprocity in the freedom of exchange, but if we could not examine these failings with sympathy they would not be abolished.

LETTERS

SEE ALSO PAGE FOUR

Outlawing the H-bomb

CONTRARY to the views now expressed by Mr. Attlee, I have always held that it is possible to isolate nuclear bombs from other weapons and to outlaw them. Mr. Attlee appears to have forgotten that his representative on the United Nations Organisation repeatedly declared that the Labour Government was anxious to outlaw the bomb if only the wicked Russians would agree to adequate inspection. Is it possible that the declaration of the Labour representative was a piece of hypocrisy?

If the Standing Joint Pacifist Committee (Sybil Morrison's letter to Mr. Attlee, P.N. February 25) can see no difference between the wholesale torture and slaughter of children by nuclear bombs and a fight between soldiers armed with "conventional" weapons, I can only say that the moral equipment of the Committee is different from mine. War is a term not easy to define. When the settler in a remote part of Kenya defends his family against Mau Mau, or even when he co-operates with other settlers for the same purpose, is he engaging in war? And if so, can the Committee see no distinction between his conduct and that of the persons responsible for the slaughter at Hiroshima? F. O'HANLON.

St. Michael's,
Hayling Rise, Worthing.

Misplaced review

YOUR critic's remarks (Wallace Hancock, Feb. 11) about Stephen Hobhouse's book, A DISCOURSE ON THE LIFE TO COME seems to me to be distressingly misplaced. One should surely grant an author the right to decide the scope and nature of his own work, and seek to appreciate it from that standpoint. Many authors have set to work to prove by argument the existence of a future life; the DISCOURSE is not conceived as an argument. Why should it be?

Stephen Hobhouse has chosen to write primarily for those whom he feels best equipped to help: people who look first to the New Testament for guidance in matters like these. His equipment to interpret the New Testament includes Greek scholarship, years of research into the writings of English and German mystics, keen appreciation of modern seers such as Blake and Gandhi, and his own deep spiritual experience during a lifetime of pacifist pioneering.

Most important of all to me is the fact that this book continues the theme of the redemption of "evil" souls by wiser men's loving sharing of their suffering. It was this same insight which illumined his war-time book, CHRIST AND OUR ENEMIES, and gave it influence far beyond pacifist circles.

I am grateful to Stephen Hobhouse for giving us this further testimony.

KATHLEEN RAWLINS.

124 Greenfield Avenue,
Carpenters Park.

Making their views known

Highgate and Muswell Hill Group of the PPU have sent a reasoned letter to their local MP setting out their views on the rearming of Germany. Copies have been sent to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and the Leader of the Opposition.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

TERMS: Cash with order, 3d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment, except for odd pence. Maximum length 60 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.
LATEST TIME for copy: Monday morning before publication.

MEETINGS

FREUNDSSCHAFTSHEIM, Germany. Easter Holiday Conference at this International Peace Centre. Apr. 6-13. Cost 4 gns. plus fare. Subject, Education for Peace. Particulars from Aubrey Brocklehurst, 77 Brent Way, N.3.
HYDROGEN BOMB. Sunday, March 13, 11.30 a.m. Prof. Alex. Haddow, Henry Osborne, M.P., Jim Plunian, M.P., Gilbert McAllister, Central Hall, Westminster, Thurs. March 31. Doors open 6.30 p.m. Reserved seats 2s. 6d. Apply Parliamentary Association for World Government, 21 Hampstead Lane, N.6. Federal Union (IRA 2275).
INTERNATIONAL CLUB, Bath. Tuesdays, 7.30. Literary Institute, 18 Queen Sq. All welcome.
KING'S WEIGH House Church, Duke St., nr. Bond St. Tube. Sunday at 6.30 p.m. "The Gospel and the Church." Rev. Dr. N. Micklethorn (Oxford).

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PEACE NEWS,

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"Take risks for peace"—Dr. Soper

imaginative power to parallel the scientific power of the hydrogen and cobalt bomb, we might well go down to the dusty death that threatens us."

He believed that this power did exist, and that peace was the purpose underlying all we hoped for and believed in. One thing beyond dispute was that the world would not work in the way we had been seeking to make it work—"I mean violence, which corrupts everything it touches."

We must take risks for peace, as we had taken risks for war, by renouncing the weapons of war. We should invite the Russian leaders to London immediately in the belief that by asserting peace and humanity the power to make peace would be found. "And if Eisenhower doesn't

want to come," said Dr. Soper, "let him stay at home. He won't want to be left out if things go well."

Dr. Soper called particularly on Christians to mobilise the great international organisation of the Church for peace; if this was not done,

March 25:

Another 8 page
PEACE NEWS
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The Christian Church faced the peril of falling into "utter contempt." Christianity began on earth, and the place to be really spiritual was in the middle of the conflict.

"I would call no man a human being who is prepared to swallow the idiot vapourings of those who want to go strong with atom bombs."

The idiotic and indefensible policy of a suicidal race to mutual destruction must cease, and we must never rest until it had.

U.S. BURNS BOOKS

* From page one

In Peace News on Feb. 25 it was reported that thousands of magazines and periodicals were being burned at Boston Post Office.

The following pamphlets sent to Peace News' US office from London have been seized in addition to the pamphlet on Guatemala:

"The Camp of Liberation," "The Third Camp," "In China Now," "The Hydrogen Bomb and You," "Indo-China and World Peace," "Inside South Korea," "Report of War in Indo-China."

The February 25 Air Express Edition of Peace News, carrying a report of the burning of books at Boston Post Office was held up by the US authorities until March 1. We regret the delay in delivery suffered by American readers.

End of 90-mile walk

From page one

of weapons which could destroy life on this earth.

Mary Harrison, who has undertaken this long walk, is only one person, and we are aware that it is a very small gesture, but we sincerely believe that she walks and speaks for thousands upon thousands of ordinary people in this island who would, if they could reach your ear, Sir, earnestly pray you to reconsider so retrograde a step, and to use your great influence to immediately renounce this method regardless of the attitude of other Governments; and, instead insist upon the way of negotiation and conference for the settlement of differences.

Yours faithfully,

HUGH BROCK, Chairman.

Last Saturday poster paraders met at Kew Bridge to accompany Mary Harrison on the last eight miles of her journey.

By the time she arrived in Whitehall some forty poster paraders and leaflet distributors were walking with her.

See "People and Places"—p. 3

TIPPETT, BARTON, NOMINATED FOR PPU CHAIRMANSHIP

WHEN nominations closed on the morning of February 1, the names of Fred Barton and Michael Tippett (both of whom had been duly nominated) remained as candidates for election to the Chairmanship of the Peace Pledge Union.

Ballot papers are being sent to all Group Secretaries who apply for copies for their members, and to all annual subscribers. Any other member can receive a ballot paper on request to the General Secretary, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1. Ballot papers must be returned not later than first post on March 21.

TWO GRAND QUAKERS

I HAVE affectionate and grateful recollections of two veteran members of the Society of Friends who have died recently, A. C. Wilson at 88, and Dr. E. Vipont Brown at 92.

Alexander Wilson was, like his father Henry Wilson, a radical of the old school, who regarded politics as the application of moral conceptions to social affairs. In his early life A. C. Wilson followed his father, Henry Wilson, in the Liberal Party. In World War I, like a number of other former Liberals he joined the Independent Labour Party, which was the only political party in Britain declaring opposition to the war, continuing his membership of the Labour Party when the ILP subsequently disaffiliated. These earlier radicals brought a concern for personal freedom and regard for the individual that is badly needed in politics today.

Vipont Brown, like Alexander Wilson was a lifelong pacifist and he also became associated with the ILP and then the Labour Party in reaction against Liberal support for the first World War. Both were beyond military age when conscription was first adopted in Britain in 1916, and both were outstanding in helping and encouraging the young conscientious objectors in the Manchester Branch of the No-

I have never found that a generous gesture ever brought any response from the Russians. They are a tough people, perhaps a materialistic people, and they certainly don't believe in moral sentiments... It is no good going to the Kremlin thinking you can read them the Sermon on the Mount. You have to talk to them straight.

—Mr. Clement Attlee, MP, March 4, 1955.

Ye have heard that it hath been said "Thou shalt love thy neighbour and hate thine enemy." But I say unto you love your enemies... do good to them that hate you...

—The Sermon on the Mount. Matthew v. 43.44.

To read Hansard last week after the "Defence" debate, and to know that these were the actual words of men elected to Parliament by people who believe them fitted to be legislators, was to feel that here indeed, was "a tale told by an idiot, signifying nothing."

Churchill's sombre sentences and majestically turned phrases, concealing, not as Bevan suggested "the mediocrity of his thinking," so much as the poverty and futility of his thought; Bevan's own muddled determination not to vote unless he could be assured that only so-called "conventional" weapons (obliteration bombing perhaps!) would be used against a "conventional" attack; and Attlee's statement that nuclear weapons are the best way of preventing another war, all leave an indelible impression of ineptitude and lack of stature in the statesmen of today.

Bevan was right when he said "we are all displaying the posture of little men before big events, and the ordinary man in the street is beginning to sense it." It was a pity he could not himself have risen to the necessary stature for the occasion.

A sense of little men, using little words, pervades the whole scene, and it is all the more

encouraging to read Victor Yates' forthright denunciation: "I say that it is unadulterated bunkum to say the hope of peace can lie in the manufacture, the possession, or the use of this most terrible weapon," and his clear and unequivocal statement of his belief in "the unconquerable power of human brotherhood," which caused him to keep his seat as his colleagues fled into the lobby.

During the week-end, many of those who were unable to catch the Speaker's eye, and even some who did, made speeches in their constituencies explaining away, in a cloud of whirling words, their own illogical and futile actions.

Mr. Attlee's apologia was made at the Oxford University Labour Club. It would be interesting to know what generous gestures have been made to the Soviet Union, and how many, but perhaps it would be unwise to remind one who thinks so little of the Sermon on the Mount that the preacher of that sermon, in answer to Peter's question: "How oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?" replied categorically, "I say not unto thee until seven times, but until seventy times seven."

In dismissing the Sermon on the Mount as worthless, Mr. Attlee pins his own faith on "straight talk," which no doubt means under the threat of a "straight left" unless the opponent agrees to be amenable to whatever proposal is put forward at any given moment.

It certainly would be of little use to read to the Kremlin a sermon for which the reader has no use, and indeed appears to despise, and yet, perhaps there has never been such straight talking as is contained in those seldom practised precepts of the Sermon on the Mount.

The inconsistency between our Christian protestations, and our utterly un-Christian statements and actions may be the reason why the Kremlin would listen with scepticism if anyone were to venture to preach to them from the Sermon on the Mount. It seems unlikely, indeed, that if they were to read the Sermon to Mr. Attlee there would be any very striking response from him!

The statesmen of today pay lip service to Christianity, but they have neither the wisdom, nor the courage, to advocate the one sure way; to give up the myth of peace through nuclear power, and to pursue it through "the power of human brotherhood."

Victor Yates is a small man as regards actual inches, but he stood out from the ruck of "little men" that day as he bravely stated his faith.

The words of G. K. Chesterton are profound and apposite: "It is not that Christianity has been found wanting; it has been found difficult and never been tried." The time has come when we must try it, or perish. There can be only one answer; "in quietness and in confidence" we will try it.

IPSWICH

"Objective Peace" demonstration

Saturday, March 19

3 p.m. Poster Parade from Friends Meeting House, Fonnereau Street.

4 p.m. Open-air meeting, Cornhill

Speakers: Sybil Morrison, Rev. Cameron Newell, Stuart Morris, Chairman: Mrs. Lesley Lewis.

BRAINS TRUST

at Friends Meeting House at 6.30 p.m.

(Peace Exhibition and Buffet from 5.30 p.m.)

Panel: Cecil Barrett, Rev. John M. Vick, Sybil Morrison, Rev. Hampden Horne, Mrs. Lesley Lewis, Stuart Morris. Question Master: Rev. Cameron Newell.

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MPs and the Bomb

FROM PAGE ONE

I regret that this White Paper has been introduced and I also regret the terms of the Amendment. To me, this is a strategic gamble.

I realise that we have to take risks for peace, and I am prepared to take certain risks for peace, but I prefer to gamble upon the unconquerable power of human brotherhood upon which eternal peace depends, rather than pinning faith on the most horrifying spectacle which can only destroy civilisation.

No victor in another war

MR. ATTLEE: I have lived with this sombre topic for some time: indeed, it is present in my mind every day.

We all recognise that there is no defence of this country in the ordinary and accepted sense of the word...

The hope of averting the catastrophe of another war which would mean not only catastrophe to ourselves, but to civilisation, is the realisation that there will be no victor in another war.



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ON CATHOLIC PRINCIPLES

PAX

OPPOSES WAR AND CONSCRIPTION

Safety does not come to peoples from external means, from the sword, which can impose conditions of peace but does not create peace. —POPE PIUS XII, SUMMI PONTIFICATUS, 1939.

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